



February 16, 2023

General Law Committee

Legislative Office Building, Room 3500, Hartford, CT 06106

Phone: 860-240-0470

Email testimony:

https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/CGATestimonySub/CGAtestimonysubmission.aspx?comm_code=GL

Re: **SUPPORT HB 6615, AN ACT CONCERNING DOG RACING**

Dear Co-Chair Maroney, Co-Chair **D'Agostino**, Vice Chair Fonfara, Vice Chair Brown, Ranking Member Cicarella, Ranking Member Rutigliano, and Honorable Members of the General Law Committee,

On behalf of the Connecticut-based supporters of The Humane Society of the United States, the largest animal protection organization in the country, please accept this public hearing testimony in SUPPORT of HB 6615. This bill is a technical bill that removes from statute the allowance of an activity that ended many years ago (2005) in Connecticut.

Dog racing is associated with significant animal cruelty. Greyhounds suffer extreme confinement and drugging; injuries and premature deaths are common. In addition, the dog racing industry has been found to use live lure training, where small animals are forced to suffer in terror before being killed.

Dog racing is now illegal in 42 states, including our neighboring states of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Currently, only one state exists with active tracks (West Virginia). Since greyhound racing is technically still legal in Connecticut, dog racing operators may see opportunity to revive dog racing in Connecticut. For this reason, HB 6615 is needed.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours truly,

Yours truly,

Annie Hornish

Connecticut Senior State Director

The Humane Society of the United States

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